(b) No Sir.

(c) While Government has no control over foreign satellite channels, under the Copyright Act, 1957, the owner/copyright holder can take recourse to legal remedies for infringement of copyright under penal provisions of the Act. The Copyright Act, 1957 has already been amended to bring it in consonance with the developments in the modern technology and making the penal provisions more stringent.

दूरदर्शन का कार्य-निष्पादन

5333. श्री अनन्त राव नायकवाडी:
श्री सत्य प्रकाश मालवीय:

क्या सूचना और प्रसारण मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या सरकार का ध्यान दिनांक 28.3.95 के दैनिक "हिन्दुस्तान" में श्री वीरेन्द्र मिश्र के "दूरदर्शन के लड़खड़ाते कदम" शीर्षक से प्रकाशित लेख की ओर दिलाया गया है; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो प्रकाशित लेख पर सरकार की प्रतिक्रिया क्या है और दूरदर्शन के कार्य-निष्पादन को सुधारने की दिशा में सरकार क्या उपयुक्त और त्वरित कार्रवाई करने पर विचार कर रही है और कब तक?

सूचना और प्रसारण मंत्रालय के राज्य मंत्री (श्री के० पी० सिंह देव): (क) जी, हां।

(ख) सरकार ने संदर्भित लेख की विषय-वस्तु को नोट किया है। दूरदर्शन राष्ट्रीय तथा क्षेत्रीय स्तर पर अपने कार्यक्रमों में गुणात्मक सुधार लाने की दृष्टि से सतत रूप से प्रयासरत है ताकि अपने दर्शकों के व्यापकतम विविध वर्गों की आवश्यकताओं को पूरा कर सके।

Old Indian films

5334. SHRI SARADA MOHANTY: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the popularity of old Indian films both inside and outside the country; and

(b) if so, the steps taken for the proper preservation of old Indian films?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION BROADCASTING (SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The task of acquiring and preserving Indian films for posterity is entrusted to the National Film Archive of India (NFAI) which was established in 1964. The film prints are being preserved by the Archive in ideal storage conditions as are currently known to science. In spite of this, some of the old films are likely to deteriorate over the years. Such films are continuously being identified and copied before they get completely decomposed.

Broadcasting Bill

5335. SHRI P. UPENDRA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are contemplating to bring forward a comprehensive Broadcasting Bill covering television, radio and TV Stations;

(b) whether suggestions for such enactment have been received from some media experts; and

(c) what is the response of Government to those suggestions?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes sir.

(c) The approach paper is being examined.

Television Broadcasting

5336. SHRI O.P. KOHLI: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether India is the only country in the world where television broadcasting needs no licence;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether Singapore and Malaysia have banned cable TV connections to homes and China has imposed a lot of restrictions, but in India it is a free-for-all;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor;

(e) whether the Supreme Court has said in its recent judgement that the "air waves" are public property" and that the right to use "air waves" has to be controlled by an "independent authority"; and

(f) if so, the import of this judgement and the steps being taken by Government in pursuant thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO): (a) and (b) There is at present no licensing of television broadcasting in India as private broadcasting is not permitted in the country.

(c) and (d) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(e) Yes, Sir.

(f) According to the judgement the Central Government shall take immediate steps to establish an independent autonomous public authority representative of all sections and interests in th e society to control and regulate the use of airwaves. Government is in the process of finalising a comprehensive broadcasting law for the country.

Promotions in the cadre of UDC & Assistants

5337. SHRI JANARDAN YADAV: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that service rendered on long term basis in UDC's grade and Assistant's grade in his Ministry are being counted for eligibility for promotion to next higher grade and proceeding on deputation; and

(b) if so, the number of such UDCs and Assistants who got promotion as Assistants and Section Officer respectively and proceeded on deputation during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO): (a) I. For Promotion Yes, Sir.

II. For Proceeding on deputation : No, Sir.

(b) I. No UDC or Assistant got promotion by counting service rendered on long term basis for determining eligibility for promotion during the last three years i.e. 1992, 1993 and 1994.

II. Quesiton does not arise.

Programmes on National Integration and Communal Harmony

5338. SHRI IQBAL SINGH: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the number of proposals for telecast of new programmes for national integration and communal harmony that have been approved by Government during the year 1994-95; and

(b) the details thereof, and the steps taken thereon by Government in this regard?